



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08350.3167

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
S. Walker et al.) Group Art Unit: 3682
)
Application No.: 10/697,797) Examiner: Not yet assigned
)
Filed: October 31, 2003)
)
For: AUTOMATED MANUAL)
TRANSMISSION AND SHIFT)
METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Further, Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the following information. Applicants believe that transmission hardware, such as that disclosed in FIG. 1 of the present application, has been sold in the United States more than one year before the filing date of the present application.

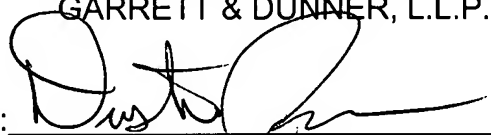
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: 
Dustin T. Johnson
Reg. No. 47,684

Dated: April 1, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	08350.3167	Appln. No.	10/697,797
Applicant	S. Walker et al.		
Filing Date	March 31, 2003	Group:	3682

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,487,318	1/1996	Shott			
	5,743,143	4/1998	Carpenter et al.			
	5,780,979	7/1998	Kim			
	5,795,260	8/1998	Kim			
	5,878,624	3/1999	Showalter et al.			
	5,951,436	9/1999	Kim			
	6,082,215	7/2000	Jerwick			
	6,140,898	10/2000	Satoh et al.			
	6,155,126	12/2000	Vogt et al.			
	6,230,577	5/2001	Showalter et al.			
	6,301,984	10/2001	Petzold			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
GB 2 315 526	2/04/1998	United Kingdom			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
<p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce